

## AGREEMENT BETWEEN ROADS AND EMPLOYEES WHICH PREVENTED RAILWAY STRIKE

New York, March 19.—The following agreement was signed today by the railway managers committee and the brotherhood chiefs, formally settling questions over which they have been at odds:

New York, March 19.—Settlement awarded by the committee of Council of National Defense: In all road service except passenger where schedules now read: '100 miles or less, nine or ten hours or less, overtime at ten or eleven miles per hour,' insert 'eight hours or less for a basic day and twelve and a half miles per hour for a speed basis for the purpose of computing overtime to be paid for at not less than one-eighth of a daily rate per hour. In all yards, switching and hostling service, where schedules now read '10, 11 or 12 hours or less shall constitute a day's work,' insert 'eight hours or less shall constitute a day's work at present ten hours' pay.'

"Overtime to be paid for at not less than one-eighth of the daily rate per hour.

"In yards now working on an 8-hour basis and daily rate shall be the present ten-hours' standard rate, with overtime at one-eighth of the present standard daily rate.

"In case the law is declared unconstitutional, eight hours or less at present ten hours' pay will constitute a day's work in hostling service.

"In passenger service the present mileage basis will be maintained. On roads now having a flat ten-hour day in passenger service, the rule will be amended to read 'eight within ten hours.'

"For all classes of employees in short turn around passenger service, where the rule now reads 'eight within twelve hours' it will be amended to read 'eight within ten hours.'

"For such territory as has no number of hours for a day's work in short

turn around passenger service the eight within ten-hour rule applies.

"Overtime to be paid for at not less than one-eighth of the daily rate per hour.

"The general committees on individual roads may elect to retain present overtime rules in short turn around passenger service, or the foregoing provisions, but may not make a combination of both to produce greater compensation than is provided in either basis.

"In the event the law is held to be constitutional, if the foregoing settlement is inconsistent with the decision of the court, the application will be adjusted to the decision. If declared constitutional the above stands for all the provisions as written.

(The above is interpreted as meaning that if the supreme court decides the law constitutional, but in doing so gives an interpretation which disagrees with the settlement, the terms of settlement will be adjusted. If the court pronounces the act constitutional as drawn, without restrictive interpretation, the term of today's agreement stand unchanged.)

"The foregoing to govern for such roads, classes of employees and classes of service represented by the national conference committee of the railways.

"The schedules except as modified by the above changes remain as at present.

"Signed—Franklin K. Lane, Daniel Willard, W. B. Wilson, Samuel Gompers.

"Accepted By—W. C. Lee, L. E. Sheppard, W. S. Stone, W. S. Carter.

"The National Conference Committee of Railways, by Elisha Lee, Chairman."

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Berne. — Authorities in Munich deny smallpox epidemic in Germany.